

Kaukauna Locks and Dam, Lockkeeper's Residence at Lock 1
Approximately 50 feet northeast of the lower gate,
on the north side of the canal
Kaukauna
Outagamie County
Wisconsin

HAER No. WI-87-A HAER
WIS
44-KAUK,
3A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
Rocky Mountain System Support Office
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

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KAUKAUNA LOCKS AND DAM, LOCKKEEPER'S RESIDENCE AT LOCK 1

HAER NO. WI-87-A

Location: The Lockkeeper's Residence at Kaukauna Lock 1 is located northeast of the lock in French lot PC 1, T21N, R18E, Civil Town of Vandenberg, Outagamie County, Wisconsin.

UTM: 16/399260/4903800; USGS Quadrangle: Kaukauna, Wisconsin 7.5' series

Date of Construction: 1892

Engineer: United States Army Corps of Engineers with Contractors

Architect: United States Army Corps of Engineers with Contractors

Present Owner: United States Army Corps of Engineers

Present Use: Vacant.

Significance: The Lockkeeper's house served as an on-site residence for the lockkeeper responsible for controlling the locks. In addition, the house served as a residence for the lockkeeper's family. The residence functioned as part of the daily operation of the Kaukauna Locks and Dam Complex.

Project Information: This documentation was undertaken in 1995 in accordance with requirements detailed in a June 19, 1994 letter from Gregory D. Kendrick, Chief, History Branch, NPS to Dale Monteith, Acting Chief, Planning Division, USACOE, Detroit District. The Lower Fox system remains basically operational but was placed in caretaker status by the USACOE in 1982. The USACOE plans to divest itself of the Lower Fox system as soon as is feasible; therefore, NPS requested this documentation. All documentation conforms to HAER standards.

Dr. John D. Richards, Principal Investigator; Georgia A. Lusk, Patricia B. Richards, and Robert J. Watson, Project Archivists with Great Lakes Archaeological Research Center, Inc. ; Joseph Paskus, Project Photographer.

LOCKKEEPER'S RESIDENCE

The lockkeeper's house was built circa 1890. In 1909 the pantry and bedroom received new hardwood floors; in 1910 the front porch was rebuilt to a 6 foot width supported by stone pillars. The exterior description is derived from the Kaukauna Locks Historic District nomination form, and from pencil drawn plans on file at the Corps of Engineers Fox River Project Office in Kaukauna.¹

It is of the gabled "L" form with a 1 1/2 story main block built on a stone foundation, and a one story gabled side wing to the right resting on a concrete foundation. Sheathed with asbestos shingles and roofed with asphalt shingles, it has a full width, hipped-roof porch across the front gable. The doors and windows throughout are covered with plywood panels and have plain surrounds. The downstream sidewall of the main block has four windows on the main floor and two short, horizontal windows just below the eaves. In plan the main block is 28 feet 3 inches long and 22 feet 3 inches wide. The right wing is 30 feet 1 inch long and 16 feet 3 inches wide.

Ceiling height in the basement is 5 feet 10 inches in the main block and 6 feet 10 inches in the wing. Only the eastern one-half of the basement was excavated; interior dimensions are 19 feet 9 inches long and 12 feet 2 inches wide. Access to the right wing basement is gained through an open entry in the stone wall. A 9 foot 1 inch square cistern lies to the left of the entry, occupying the southwest corner next to the furnace which is situated a short distance beyond the entry. The wing basement is 29 feet 5 inches long and 14 feet 10 inches wide.

The main block first floor plan shows a living room in the northwest quadrant followed in a clockwise direction by a staircase and hall, a parlor, and a den. The living room is 12 feet 6 inches square, the hall and staircase area 12 feet 10 inches long and 6 feet 3 inches wide, the parlor 14 feet 4 inches long and 12 feet 10 inches wide, and the den 12 feet 6 inches long and 8 feet wide. One specified window dimension is 2 feet 6 inches wide and 4 feet 6 inches long. Two windows are located on the rear wall in the living room, one on the front wall and two on the side wall in the living room, and two on the side wall and one on the rear wall in the living room. The front exterior doorway accesses the hall and staircase. The door is 2 feet 9 inches wide and 8 feet long. A door at the end of the hall accesses the living room, and an open entry accesses the parlor. The living room and den are joined by an open entry, the living room and parlor are joined by a door adjacent to the hall door. Not shown on the plans is a fully windowed, front porch with a side entry. It has a hipped, asphalt shingled roof, and is accessed by four-riser wooden stairs.

The second floor plan depicts two bedrooms, two closets, and a bathroom. The northeast corner bedroom is 11 feet 7 inches wide and about 15 feet long. Access is gained through a door at the head of the stairs within the master bedroom. The bedroom exits into an unspecified hall beyond which there is a closet. The bathroom is 7 feet 1 inch wide and 9 feet long, and is accessible from both bedrooms. The master bedroom is 13 feet 2 inches wide and about 17 feet 8 inches long. A bedroom closet is situated in the northeast closet corner. The front and rear walls have two windows each. They are 2 feet 8 inches wide and 4 feet 6 inches high. The side wall has two small windows, 2 feet 8 inches wide and 2 feet 1 inch high.

The right, or northeast, wing is accessed through an open entry off the living room which accesses a dining room 15 feet 3 inches long and 9 feet 2 inches wide. Through an open entry is the kitchen. It is 15 feet 3 inches long and 12 feet 10 inches wide. The chimney is adjacent to the southwest kitchen wall. Exterior doorways exit both side walls from the kitchen. An open entry accesses a pantry 7 feet 6 inches long and 7 feet 1 inches wide. A hall and basement stairs occupy the northeast corner of the wing where a third exterior door is located. All exterior doors are 2 feet 8 inches wide and 6 feet 8 inches long. Windows are located, one each, on the front and rear walls

of the dining room and kitchen, one on the end wall of the pantry, and one on the front wall above the basement stairs. A louvered vent panel is located in the upper gable. Not shown in the plan is a southeast-facing, open porch off the kitchen. It has a flat roof supported by four wooden pillars, accessed by four-riser wooden stairs.

ENDNOTES

- 1 John N. Vogel, *Kaukauna Locks Historic District*, NPS Form 10-900 National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1991; USACOE, Pencil drawn plans on file at the Corps of Engineers Fox River Project Office in Kaukauna #1155.

